

## **II. Remarks**

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

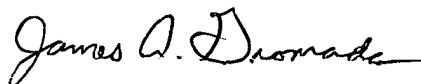
Claims 29-38 are pending in the application. Claim 29 is independent. Claims 1-28 and 39-43 have been cancelled. Claim 29 has been amended herein. Please note that Claim 29 has been amended for clarity with respect to the specification and drawings. No new matter has been added.

Applicant notes with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated that Claim 43 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, while specifically traversing the art rejections, and preserving Applicant's right to file a continuation application to pursue the broad but patentable claims, Applicant has amended Claim 29 by rewriting it so that Claim 29 is now equivalent to Claim 43 rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, solely to secure immediate allowance thereof. In addition, each of Claims 30-38 depends from independent Claim 29. Accordingly, Applicant submits that each of Claims 29-38 is allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance, and a Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 625-3500. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James A. Gromada". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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